Cleaning and protecting the vehicle exterior

Follow these guidelines when washing and waxing your Lexus.

- Working from top to bottom, liberally apply water to the vehicle body, wheel wells and underside of the vehicle to remove any built up dirt and dust.
 - Wash the vehicle body using a sponge or soft cloth, such as a chamois.
- For hard-to-remove dirt, use car wash soap and rinse thoroughly with water.
- Thoroughly dry your vehicle.
- Apply polish or wax only when the vehicle body is cool.
 Wax or polish your vehicle when the existing coating of wax or polish begin to deteriorate. A good way to determine this, is by checking to see if water beads on the painted surface of your vehicle. If it does not bead, that means the wax or polish is no longer protecting the finish, and therefore should be reapplied.

■ Automatic car washes

- Fold the mirrors back and retract the antenna before washing the vehicle.
- Brushes used in automatic car washes may scratch the vehicle surface, which can harm your vehicle's paint.
- Vehicles equipped with a rear spoiler may not be washable in some automatic car washes. There may also be an increased risk of damage to vehicle.
- Do not use automatic car washes with the compact spare tire installed, as the vehicle may get caught.

■ High pressure automatic car washes

Do not allow the nozzles of the car wash to come within close proximity of the windows or door weather seals of your vehicle.

Before entering the automatic car wash, check that the fuel filler door on your vehicle is closed properly.

208

■ To prevent paint deterioration and corrosion on the body

- Wash the car immediately in the following cases:
 - · After driving near the sea coast
 - After driving on salted roads
 - · If you see coal tar or tree sap on the paint surface
 - If you see dead insects or insect droppings on the paint
 - After driving in an area contaminated with soot, oily smoke, mine dust, iron powder or chemical substances
 - If the vehicle becomes heavily soiled in dust or mud
 - If liquids such as benzene and gasoline are spilled on the paint surface
- If the paint is chipped or scratched, have it repaired immediately.

■ Wheels

Remove any dirt immediately by using a neutral detergent. Do not use hard brushes or abrasive cleaners. Do not use strong or harsh chemical cleaners. Use the same mild detergent and wax as used on the paint.

■ Plastic bumpers and side moldings

Do not scrub with abrasive cleaners.

■ Side windows water-repellent coating

The following precautions can extend the effectiveness of the water-repellent coating

- Remove any dirt, etc. from the side windows regularly.
- Do not allow dirt and dust to accumulate on the windows for a long period. Clean the windows with a soft, damp cloth as soon as possible.
- Do not use wax or glass cleaners that contain abrasives when cleaning the windows.
- Do not use any metallic objects to remove condensation build up.

A CAUTION

■ Caution about the exhaust pipe

Exhaust gasses cause the exhaust pipe to become quite hot.

When washing the vehicle, be careful not to touch the pipe until it has cooled sufficiently, as touching a hot exhaust pipe can cause burns.

♠ NOTICE

■ To protect vehicle's painted surfaces

Do not use organic cleaners such as benzene or gasoline.

■ Cleaning the exterior lights

- Wash carefully. Do not use organic substances or scrub the exterior light a hard brush. This may damage the surfaces of the lights.
- Do not apply wax on the surfaces of the lights. Wax may cause damage to the lenses.

■ If the windshield washer nozzle become blocked

Contact your Lexus dealer. Do not try to clear it with a pin or other object. This may damage the nozzle.

■ To prevent damage to the windshield wiper arms

When lifting the wiper arms away from the windshield, pull the driver side wiper arm upward first, and repeat for the passenger side. When returning the wipers to their original position, do so from the passenger side first.

Cleaning and protecting the vehicle interior

The following procedures will help protect your vehicle's interior and keep it in top condition:

■ Protecting the vehicle interior

Remove dirt and dust using a vacuum cleaner and wipe dirty surface with a cloth dampened with lukewarm water.

Cleaning the leather seats

- Remove dirt and dust by using a vacuum cleaner.
- Wipe any excess dirt and dust with a soft cloth dampened with diluted detergent.
 - Use a diluted water solution of approximately 5% neutral detergent for wool.
- Wring out any excess water from the cloth and thoroughly wipe off all remaining traces of detergent.
- Wipe the surface with a dry, soft cloth to remove any remaining moisture. Allow the leather to dry in a ventilated and shaded area.

Synthetic leather areas

First vacuum over the upholstery to remove loose dirt. Then, using a sponge or soft cloth, apply a mild soap solution to the synthetic leather. After allowing it to soak in for a few minutes to loosen the dirt, remove the dirt and wipe off the soap with a clean damp cloth.

■ Caring for leather seats

Lexus recommends regularly cleaning the interior of the vehicle at least twice a year to maintain the quality of the vehicle's interior.

■ Shampooing the carpets

There are several commercial foaming-type cleaners available.

Use a sponge or brush to apply the foam. Rub in overlapping circles. Do not apply water. The best results are obtained by keeping the carpet as dry as possible.

■ Seat belts

Clean with mild soap and lukewarm water using a cloth or sponge. Also check the belts for excessive wear, fraying or cuts.

A CAUTION

■ Water in the vehicle

- Do not splash or spill liquid in the vehicle. Doing so may cause electrical components etc. to malfunction or catch fire.
- Do not get any safety system and control units such as SRS airbags, in the vehicle interior wet.

Electrical malfunction may cause the airbags to deploy or not function properly, resulting in death or serious injury.

♠ NOTICE

■ Cleaning detergents

Do not use organic substances such as benzene, alcohol, gasoline, or alkaline or acid solutions, as they may discolor the vehicle interior or cause streaks or damage to painted surfaces.

■ Preventing damage to leather surfaces

Observe the following precautions to avoid damage to and deterioration of leather surfaces.

- Remove any dust or dirt on leather surfaces immediately.
- Do not expose the vehicle to direct sunlight for extended periods of time. Park the vehicle in the shade, especially during summer.
- Do not place items made of vinyl, plastic, or that contain wax on the upholstery, as they may stick to the leather surface if the vehicle interior heats up significantly.

■ Water on the floor

Do not soak the floor carpet with water or other liquids when cleaning.

Vehicle systems such as electrical control systems and the audio system may be damaged if liquids come into contact with them. In addition, water may cause the body to rust.

Cleaning the inside of the rear window

- Do not use glass cleaner to clean the rear window, as this may cause damage to the rear window defogger heater wires. Use a cloth dampened with lukewarm water to gently wipe the window clean. Wipe the window in strokes running parallel to the heater wires.
- Be careful not to scratch or damage the heater wires.

■ Cleaning the display

The air conditioning control panel and audio display screens are coated to avoid reflection. Do not use chemicals or detergent. Wipe with a dry cloth.